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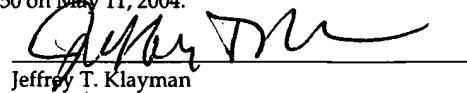


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shapiro et al. Atty Dkt: 1525C/107
Serial No.: 09/538,556 Art Unit: 3623
Date Filed: March 29, 2000 Examiner: Stimpak, J.
Invention: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FACILITATING BILATERAL AND
MULTILATERAL DECISION-MAKING

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document, along with any other papers referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 11, 2004.


Jeffrey T. Klayman

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office communication dated 4/29/04, Applicants hereby submit the following interview summary.

In a telephonic interview on April 22, 2004 between Examiner Stimpak, Supervisory Patent Examiner Hafiz, and Applicants' attorney Jeffrey Klayman, Mr. Klayman further explained claim 1 and the use of the terms "orthogonal," "conjoint analysis," and "forced choice questions." Regarding conjoint analysis, Mr. Klayman pointed out that, in accordance with the present invention as claimed, conjoint analysis is used to reveal preferences of two parties for the purpose of matching. The Puram reference was discussed. There were no other exhibits or demonstrations. Examiner Stimpak agreed to take Mr. Klayman's comments into consideration when responding to the amendment. Mr. Klayman indicated that he would consider submitting a preliminary amendment if necessary.

In a telephonic interview on April 29, 2004 between Examiner Stimpak and Mr. Klayman, Mr. Klayman explained that the claims essentially cover applying conjoint

analyses to two distinct groups for the purpose matching, which is not shown or otherwise suggested in any of the references of record. Examiner Stimpak agreed that Puram is not relevant, and indicated that she will do some additional analysis.

Respectfully submitted,



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